



Translation

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 10677-SH-PCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION	See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)
International application No. PCT/JP2003/009854	International filing date (day/month/year) 04 August 2003 (04.08.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC B41J 29/38, G06F 1/32, 3/12		
Applicant SHARP KABUSHIKI KAISHA		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 5 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of 9 sheets.

3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:

- I Basis of the report
- II Priority
- III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
- IV Lack of unity of invention
- V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
- VI Certain documents cited
- VII Certain defects in the international application
- VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 27 November 2003 (27.11.2003)	Date of completion of this report 30 August 2004 (30.08.2004)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/JP	Authorized officer
Facsimile No.	Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

I. Basis of the report

1. With regard to the elements of the international application:*

 the international application as originally filed the description:

pages 1, 3-7, 9-12, 15-23, as originally filed

pages , filed with the demand

pages 2-2/1, 8-8/1, 13-14, filed with the letter of 15 March 2004 (15.03.2004)

 the claims:

pages 2-15, as originally filed

pages , as amended (together with any statement under Article 19

pages , filed with the demand

pages 1, 16, filed with the letter of 25 March 2004 (25.03.2004)

 the drawings:

pages 1-15, as originally filed

pages , filed with the demand

pages , filed with the letter of

 the sequence listing part of the description:

pages , as originally filed

pages , filed with the demand

pages , filed with the letter of

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language which is:

 the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)). the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)). the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

 contained in the international application in written form. filed together with the international application in computer readable form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form. The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished. The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of: the description, pages the claims, Nos. the drawings, sheets/fig 5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).**

* Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rule 70.16 and 70.17).

** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.

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V. Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement

1. Statement

Novelty (N)	Claims	1-16	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-16	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-16	YES
	Claims		NO

2. Citations and explanations

Document 1: JP, 2003-94770, A (Canon Inc.), April 3, 2003 (04.03.03), Full text, all drawings

Document 2: JP, 2003-54091, A (Canon Inc.), February 26, 2003 (02.26.03), Full text, all drawings

Document 3: JP, 2002-86768, A (Seiko Epson Corporation), March 26, 2002 (03.26.02), Column 6, lines 1-17, all drawings

Document 4: JP, 2003-80800, A (Canon Inc.), March 19, 2003 (03.19.03), Column 9, line 43-column 10, line 5, all drawings

Document 5: JP, 10-175355, A (Canon Inc.), June 30, 1998 (06.30.98), Full text, all drawings

Document 6: JP, 8-166862, A (Canon Inc.), June 25, 1996 (06.25.96), Full text, all drawings

The inventions relating to claims 1, 3 and 6 do not appear to involve an inventive step based on document 1. Document 1 (columns 4-5) discloses technology wherein, when an entire recording device is in a power-off state, only an interface circuit 3 comprising a power supply line in which power from an interface is stored is caused to operate, and after a signal inputted from outside is detected by an interface controller 4, a power source part 5 is caused to operate. Also, document 1 (Fig. 1) shows that a recording device 5V voltage is connected to a standby power source 21. Here, a voltage of the recording device is generally supplied from a commercial power source; therefore, the standby power source 21 in document 1 is found to be connected to a commercial power source as well, or configuring in such a way also could be conceived of as appropriate by a party skilled in the art. Further, employing technology of using a photo coupler to generate each signal as means for generating a signal to start the power source part 5 of document 1, which is a well-known and commonly used art, could be conceived of as appropriate by a party skilled in the art.

The invention relating to claim 2 does not appear to involve an inventive step based on document 1 and technology described in document 2 (column 6, lines 45-47) wherein even when no clock signal is supplied, a voltage level of a USB interface Vbus can be detected.

The invention relating to claim 4 does not appear to involve an inventive step based on document 1 and technology described in document 3 (column 6, lines 1-17) wherein charging is performed at a prescribed timing.

The invention relating to claim 5 does not appear to involve an inventive step based on document 1 and technology described in document 4 (column 9, line 43-column 10, line 5) wherein charging is performed when a power value drops below a prescribed value.

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VI. Certain documents cited**1. Certain published documents (Rule 70.10)**

Application No. Patent No.	Publication date (day/month/year)	Filing date (day/month/year)	Priority date (valid claim) (day/month/year)
JP 2003-228444 A	15.08.03	04.02.04	

[EX]

2. Non-written disclosures (Rule 70.9)

Kind of non-written disclosure	Date of non-written disclosure (day/month/year)	Date of written disclosure referring to non-written disclosure (day/month/year)
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Supplemental Box

(To be used when the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient)

Continuation of Box V:

The inventions relating to claims 6-9 and 14-15 do not appear to involve an inventive step based on document 1 and technology described in document 5 (column 11, lines 15-21 and column 13, lines 33-50) wherein a signal corresponding to a signal pattern set in advance is continuously transmitted for at least a prescribed time or transmitted a plurality of times.

The invention relating to claim 10 does not appear to involve an inventive step based on document 1 and technology described in document 6 wherein, when a signal to cause a printer to perform a prescribed process is transmitted, if the printer is in execution of some processing, until the process ends, the prescribed processing is not started.

The invention relating to claim 11 does not appear to involve an inventive step based on documents 1, 5 and 6.

The inventions relating to claims 12-13 do not appear to involve an inventive step based on documents 1, 5 and 6. "Time from when the power saving request signal is inputted to when the prescribed time has passed" in claim 12 means a power saving request signal is not valid; therefore, when the power saving request signal is not valid, validating a signal inputted from outside could be easy for a party skilled in the art. Also, configuring so that a signal is not repetitively received as the invention relating to claim 13 could be easy for a party skilled in the art.